Construction of additional complex in National Museum, Calcutta

1628. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Boadd of Trustees of National Museum in Calcutta intend to construct additional complex in the area adjoining Government College of Art.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the response of the authority of that college to such construction programme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) A new Annexe building of the Indjan Museum, Calcutta is being constructed on its own land adjacent to Government College of Art and Crafts.

After discussions with the College authorities, a working arrangement has been finalised.

University status to Manipal Academy of Higher Education

1629. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Manipal Academy of Higher Education situated in Modhao Nagar Manipal Karnataka has been granted a Deemed University Status; and

(b) if so, when and under what consideraion?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India declared the Manipal Academy of Higher Education as an institution deemed to be a University vide notification dated 1st June, 1993.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has laid down guidelines for considering proposal for declaring an institution as deemed to be a University. Each such institution has to fulfill the minimum eligibility conditions in terms of objectives, infrastructural facilities, faculty positions commitment of minimum recurring annual grant so as to be financially viable, etc. The Commission appointed an Expert Committee in September, 1992 for an on the spot assessment of the level of teaching/research being carried out by the institutions and to see the infrastructural facilities existing there. After considering the report of the Expert Committee and satisfying that the Manipal Academy fulfilled the minimum prescribed conditions, the UGC made recommendation to the Government to declare Manipal Academy of Higher Education as an institution deemed to be a University under Section 3 of the UGC Act.

Free Education to Girls

1630. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide free education to every child of age group between 6 to 14 years under the Directive Principles enshrined in the Constitution;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what effective measures are being taken by Government for providing free education to the girls of the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) In accordance with the Constitutional Directive,